

Carbon Tetrachloride found in drinking water... Is your geomembrane compliant?

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Health Risks of Carbon Tetrachloride

Carbon Tetrachloride is a clear heavy organic liquid that has been determined in short-term exposure to cause liver, kidney, and lung damage, while long-term exposure can result in cancer. As a result of the potential of carbon tetrachloride in drinking water, the EPA has set a Maximum Contaminant Level Goal of '0' and a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 5ppb. States such as California (CA) have set more stringent requirements for carbon tetrachloride in drinking water. Recently in California, a reservoir with a newly installed CSPE geomembrane liner system exceeded the allowable limits of the CA MCL and is therefore being taken out of service and the CSPE liner is being removed.

Geomembrane Compliance

Geomembrane liners systems have come under scrutiny to assure leaching of potential contaminants do not occur. Geomembrane liners must comply with the NSF/ANSI 61 Drinking Water System Components. To comply with NSF/ANSI 61, the geomembrane liner formulation is reviewed, water extraction testing is performed and on-going compliance is monitored by an independent agency. In some cases, such

as XR®-PW (potable water), individual components of the geomembrane formulation may undergo the same requirements.

XR-PW Membranes

XR®-PW geomembranes are subjected to the NSF/ANSI 61 Drinking Water System Components requirements, are managed by an independent body, have been tested and found to have '0' detectable carbon tetrachloride in the extraction test. XR®-PW geomembranes are made in America and are regulated by governing bodies. Due to the close of the DuPont CSPE facility in 2009, CSPE geomembranes are now made from offshore resins which are not regulated to standards like the EPA. It has been found that the finished offshore resins upon storage may release entrapped carbon tetrachloride and chloroform. Are these residuals finding their way into our drinking water, if so, how?

Further discussion to follow...

For more information about XR® Geomembrane Systems please contact **Bill Shehane** by phone at **330-262-1111** extension **3003** or email at bshehane@seamancorp.com



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